Amendments to the Abstract:

ABSTRACT

Please replace the abstract that appears on page 16 of the specification with the following revised abstract which is submitted on a separate sheet.

Abstract

~~The invention concerns an~~ An apparatus for detecting a predefined fill level of a medium in a container having a lid [[(1)]] by means of a conductive measuring system, which has at least two measuring electrodes [[(2, 3)]] extending into the container[[,]] ~~wherein a~~ . A measurement current [[(IM)]] flowing between the two measuring electrodes [[(2, 3)]] is used to detect the reaching of the predefined fill level. ~~An object of the invention is to make~~ The apparatus makes possible a differentiated detection of accretions on the lid [[(1)]] of the container. ~~The object is achieved according~~ According to one variant of the invention [[by]] this is achieved by providing a compensation electrode [[(4)]], which is arranged such that the degree of fouling in the region of the lid [[(1)]] of the container is determined on the basis of a current [[(I_D)]] flowing between one of the measuring electrodes [[(2, 3)]] and the compensation electrode, caused by conductive accretions in the lid [[(1)]] of the container.